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Docket No.: 20308 US (C38435/109700CON)

Examiner: M. Walicka

Art Unit: 1652

## IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of: Akira ASAKURA et al.

Serial No.: 09/470,667

Filed: December 22, 1999

For: **NOVEL ALCOHOL/ALDEHYDE** 

**DEHYDROGENASES** 

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TECH UENTER 1600/290

New York, NY July 30, 2001

## RESPONSE TO RESTRICTION REQUIREMENT AND REQUEST FOR A ONE-MONTH EXTENSION OF TIME

Commissioner for Patents Washington, DC 20231

Sir:

This is in response to the Restriction Requirement mailed May 29, 2001, which set a one-month shortened statutory period for response that expired on June 29, 2001. A one-month extension of time to respond to the Restriction Requirement is hereby requested and with this petition, the Response is due July 30, 2001. 35 USC §21(b); 37 CFR §§ 1.7 and 1.8. Enclosed is a check in the amount of \$110.00 to cover the fee for the extension of time. 37 CFR § 1.17 (a)(1).

It is not believed that this response occasions any additional fee, but should there be any fee, please charge the same to Deposit Account No. 02-4467. A duplicate copy of this sheet is enclosed.

On page 2 of the Office Action, the Examiner issued a nine-way restriction requirement pursuant to 35 USC § 121. The restriction divided the claims into the following allegedly distinct inventions: Group I, drawn to "an enzyme comprising a recombinant polypeptide having

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